REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-3 and 5-7 remain pending in the application. By the foregoing Amendment, claims 1 and 7 are amended; and claim 4 is canceled.

On page 3 of the Office Action, independent claims 1 and 7, along with various dependent claims, are rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,425,008 (Lecheler et al.) in view of U.S. Patent 6,978,265 (Schumacher). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have previously discussed of record Applicants' disclosure that when a management computer receives event information including the identifier tag and when the management computer needs to display or use the source of an event, the management computer can, for example, derive the domain name of the collection computer from the identifier tag contained in the event (see, e.g., the specification at paragraph [0024]); and that the event tagging can send with every event an identifier tag that can contain the identifier, for example, the name or domain name, of the collection computer or group of collection computers from where the event came (see, e.g., the specification at paragraph [0023]). Applicants have further disclosed that in step 220, the source of the event can be identified to a user using the identification of the collection computer. As exemplified in Figs. 4A and 4B, the source of the event can be identified to a user by displaying to the user the identification of the at least one collection computer and a network address (e.g., the IP address) of the network element which generated the event (e.g., paragraph [0025]).

The foregoing features are broadly encompassed by claims 1 and 7. For example, the Lecheler patent does not disclose or suggest "identifying to a user the source of the event by displaying to the user the identification of the at least one collection computer and a network address of a network element that generated the event, the at least one collection computer being at least one of a collection computer and a group of collection computers," as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 7.

As Applicants have last argued of record, As shown in Fig. 1 of the Lecheler patent, no duplicate pairs of network identifiers 16 are assigned to a common Level 1 manager 34. Further, Applicants have last argued of record that the Lecheler patent uses a level one manager to detect errors within a customer domain 12 (e.g., col. 4, lines 15-42). The Lecheler patent would not have taught or suggested "identifying to a user the source of the event by displaying to the user the identification of the at least one collection computer and a network address of a network element that generated the event, the at least one collection computer being at least one of a collection computer and a group of collection computers," as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 7.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner admits that "Lecheler does not specifically teach that the collection and management computers for a certain domain may be implemented by multiple computers." However, the Examiner relies on the Schumacher patent to cure the deficiencies of the Lecheler et al. patent. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's ultimate conclusion.

The Schumacher patent does not cure the deficiencies of the Lecheler et al. patent. As relied upon by the Examiner, the Schumacher patent merely shows

computers 12_1-12_5 arranged in an hierarchical relationship, wherein computer 12_1 is a top-level master node, computer 12_2 is a primary database Domain A, and computers 12_3 - 12_5 are a mix of workstation/server computers (col. 3, line 56 through col. 4, line 12). There is no hint of 1) an event; 2) an identification to a user the source of an event; and 3) displaying to the user the identification of the at least one of these computers. Rather, FIG. 1 of the Schumacher patent merely shows a plurality of collection agents 16 associated with workstation 12_3 and server 12_4. The Schumacher patent would not have taught or suggested "identifying to a user the source of the event by displaying to the user the identification of the at least one collection computer and a network address of a network element that generated the event, the at least one collection computer being at least one of a collection computer and a group of collection computers," as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 7.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant's claims 1 and 7 are allowable over the applied references. The remaining claims depend from independent claim 1 and recite additional advantageous features which further distinguish over the document relied upon by the Examiner. As such, the present application is in condition for allowance.
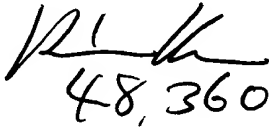
All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: September 5, 2007   By: _____

Patrick C. Keane
Registration No. 32858

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
703 836 6620

#1215773-v2;1032842/000021